



Press Release

Swiss Companies Switch to K4 Publishing System K4 replaces WoodWing Smart Connection Enterprise

Hamburg, Germany (December 13, 2005) -- Printer and Publisher Rheintaler Druckerei und Verlag AG (RDV) will produce the magazine Marketing & Kommunikation as well as its dossiers with SoftCare's K4 Publishing System. With this decision, RDV replaces its previous system WoodWing Smart Connection Enterprise (SCE) with K4, both based on Adobe InDesign and Adobe InCopy. Another Swiss company, Arnold Design, switched its production from Smart Connection Pro to K4.

Marketing & Kommunikation (MK) is the leading Swiss magazine for integrated communication and the official organ of many different communication associations. In spring 2005, the company decided to implement an editorial system to gain speed and efficiency in its workflow.

As printer and publisher, RDV needed a system to cover both areas with the required flexibility and as little effort as possible. "We bought Smart Connection Enterprise in May 2005 on the recommendation of our former IT service provider. After several months of testing, we decided to switch to K4," says Urs Staudacher, Head of Prepress at RDV.

The fast installation and easy use of K4 were highly appreciated by RDV staff members. "From our previous experiences, we were pleasantly surprised that K4 was so easy and fast to install. We expected a longer and more complicated installation phase when choosing a larger system. But far from it!" Thanks to K4, RDV now feels well-prepared for the future. "With its open interfaces, K4 offers numerous possibilities for automating standard processes. This leaves us lots of room for future enhancements."

Swiss K4 system integrator Topix AG, who has already successfully implemented the system at diverse sites, played an important role in getting K4 at RDV up and running so quickly. "Topix offered us a coherent concept for areas such as editorial office, network and prepress. In addition, Topix proved to be an extraordinary competent and responsive support partner. In the future, we will work closely with Topix for all our IT concerns," says Urs Staudacher.

Arnold Design AG Visuelle Kommunikation, an agency for editorial and corporate design based in Zurich, also switched from Smart Connection to K4. From next year on, Arnold Design will produce the customer magazine Bulletin of Credit Suisse Group with K4 and will gradually realize other corporate publishing projects with K4.

"After a detailed evaluation and intensive testing period, we are now one hundred percent sure that we have backed the right horse. Technical preparations went smoothly even when connecting external bank service provider with the internal editorial office. It became obvious that security issues concerning access via the various firewall setups were a far bigger challenge than the technical implementation," says Lukas Huggenberg, Project Manager at Arnold Design.

RDV uses K4

Adoption of Adobe InDesign

Little Effort

Fast Implementation

Coherent Concept

Arnold Design with K4

Intensive Test Period



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“Our customers want a system that can be easily integrated into the existing environment and ensures high production security,” says Dieter Herzmann, Managing Director at Topix AG. “An editorial system ought to support users unobtrusively in their daily work and take care of file handling and versioning efficiently. We recommend K4 to our customers because the system masters these demands brilliantly.”

The award-winning K4 Publishing System enables efficient and secure publishing workflows built around Adobe InDesign and Adobe InCopy. With its multilevel security controls and robust customization options, K4 supports a transparent and fast production workflow for individual workgroups or entire publishing enterprises. K4 offers support for remote locations and multi-language publications. One of the hallmarks of K4 is its advanced connectivity, enabling other systems such as asset management or automated prepress to be linked to it. K4 has been successfully implemented at magazine, newspaper, corporate and book publishing sites ranging from 10 to more than 250 users. K4 supports Mac OS X and Windows clients in mixed platform environments. The server software is available for Mac OS X Server, Windows, SUN Solaris and Linux.

SoftCare was founded in 1990 and is a leading developer of workflow solutions for the publishing industry, helping magazine and newspaper publishers work more efficiently. SoftCare’s flagship product is the award-winning K4 Publishing System, the first editorial system for professional publishing workflows based on Adobe InDesign and InCopy. SoftCare teams up with trained K4 System Integrators throughout the world to ensure high-quality service and support for the system. More than 100 customers worldwide use K4 to streamline their production process, including Condé Nast and Metro Newspapers, USA, Gruner + Jahr Wirtschaftspresse and Hubert Burda Media, Germany, and Zehnder, Switzerland.

Topix AG was founded in 1989 and is recognized as one of the leading system integrators for graphic solutions in Switzerland. With its locations in St.Gallen and Zurich, business activities include consulting, sales, service, support and training. In addition to K4 Publishing System, Topix sells various products in the areas of server/storage, media asset management, workflow management and security, as well as communication for different server platforms.

User Support

About K4

About SoftCare

About Topix AG

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